STATUS OF THE CLAIMS

1. **(Previously Presented)** A method of testing at least a first cork stopper and a second cork stopper for the presence of an analyte that causes cork taint in wine, comprising the steps of:
   a) moving the first cork stopper to a first position;
   b) moving a first sensor to a second position proximate said first position, said first sensor being operatively configured to detect the presence of the analyte;
   c) determining via said first sensor whether the analyte is present in/on the first cork stopper;
   d) moving the first cork stopper out of said first position;
   e) moving said first sensor out of said second position;
   f) moving a second cork stopper into said first position;
   g) moving a second sensor to said second position, said second sensor operatively configured to detect the presence of the analyte; and
   h) determined via said second sensor whether the analyte is present in/on the second cork stopper.

2. **(Previously Presented)** A method according to claim 1, further comprising the steps of providing a plurality of batches of cork stoppers and testing each and every cork stopper in said plurality of batches in the manner of steps a)-h).

3. **(Previously Presented)** A method according to claim 1, wherein the analyte comprises TCA.

4. **(Previously Presented)** A method according to claim 1, wherein each of said first and second sensors is an electronic nose operatively configured to sense TCA.

5. **(Original)** A method according to claim 4, wherein step c includes moving a fluid from the first item to the first sensor.

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6. **(Original)** A method according to claim 5, wherein step c includes blowing said fluid from the first item to the first sensor.

7. **(Previously Presented)** A method according to claim 1, further comprising placing said first sensor in communication with sensor electronics substantially only when said first sensor is in said first position.

8. **(Original)** A method according to claim 7, wherein the step of placing said first sensor in communication with said sensor electronics includes contacting a plurality of probes with a plurality of leads that are each in electrical communication with said first sensor.

9. **(Previously Presented)** A method of testing a cork stopper for the presence of an analyte that causes cork taint in wine, comprising the steps of:
   a) providing an electronic nose operatively configured for detecting the presence of the analyte;
   b) moving the cork stopper to a first position;
   c) causing a fluid to move a portion of the analyte, if present, from the cork stopper to said electronic nose; and
   d) sensing via said electronic nose whether the analyte is present.

10. **(Original)** A method according to claim 9, wherein the analyte is TCA.

11. **(Previously Presented)** A method of testing at least a first item and a second item for the presence of an analyte, comprising the steps of:
   a) providing a plurality of sensors operatively configured for sensing the presence of the analyte;
   b) providing sensor electronics operatively configured to make each of said plurality of sensors operational for sensing the presence of the analyte;
   c) moving a first one of said plurality of sensors to a location proximate the first item;

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d) placing said first one of said plurality of sensors into communication with said sensor electronics substantially only when said first one of said plurality of sensors is in said location so as to make said first one of said plurality of sensors operational;

e) testing the first item for the presence of the analyte using said first one of said plurality of sensors;

f) moving a second one of said plurality of sensors to said location;

g) placing said second one of said plurality of sensors into communication with said sensor electronics substantially only when said first one of said plurality of sensors is in said location so as to make said second one of said plurality of sensors operational; and

h) testing the second item for the presence of the analyte using said second one of said plurality of sensors.

12. **(Original)** A method according to claim 11, wherein each of steps d and g includes contacting a plurality of probes with a plurality of leads that are each in electrical communication with the corresponding one of said first and second sensors.

13. **(Previously Presented)** An apparatus for testing each one of a plurality of cork stoppers for the presence of an analyte that causes cork taint in wine, comprising:

a) a plurality of sensors, each operatively configured for detecting the analyte that causes cork taint in wine;

b) a first system that moves each one of said plurality of cork stoppers, in seriatim, to a first position;

c) a second system that moves each one of said plurality of sensors, in seriatim, to a second position located proximate said first position; and

d) a controller operatively connected to said second system and operatively configured to cause said second system to move another one of said plurality of sensors into said second position each time said first system moves one of said plurality of cork stoppers into said first position.

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14. **(Original)** An apparatus according to claim 13, wherein each of said plurality of sensors comprises an electronic nose.

15. **(Previously Presented)** An apparatus according to claim 14, further comprising a third system for moving a fluid so as to move at least a portion of the analyte, if present, from the one of said plurality of cork stoppers located at said first position to the one of said plurality of sensors located at said second position.

16. **(Previously Presented)** An apparatus according to claim 13, wherein each of said plurality of cork stoppers is either accepted or rejected based upon the non-presence/presence of the analyte, the apparatus further comprising a fourth system for diverting rejected ones of said plurality of cork stoppers.

17. **(Previously Presented)** An apparatus according to claim 13, wherein said first system comprises a conveyor that conveys each of said plurality of cork stoppers to said first position.

18. **(Original)** An apparatus according to claim 17, wherein said conveyor includes a flexible web.

19. **(Previously Presented)** An apparatus according to claim 18, wherein said flexible web includes a plurality of receivers each configured to receive a corresponding one of said plurality of cork stoppers.

20. **(Previously Presented)** An apparatus according to claim 13, wherein said second system comprises a linear conveyor that conveys each of said plurality of sensors to said second position.

21. **(Original)** An apparatus according to claim 20, wherein said conveyor comprises a flexible web, each of said plurality of sensors being secured to said flexible web.

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22. **(Original)** An apparatus according to claim 13, wherein said second system recycles said plurality of sensors.

23. **(Original)** An apparatus according to claim 13, wherein each one of said plurality of sensors is a single-use sensor.

24. **(Previously Presented)** An apparatus according to claim 13, further comprising sensor electronics and wherein each of said plurality of sensors is in electrical communication with said sensor electronics when located only substantially in said second position.

25. **(Original)** An apparatus according to claim 13, further comprising sensor electronics operatively configured to, in seriatim, make each of said plurality of sensors operational for sensing the presence of the analyte.

26. **(Original)** An apparatus according to claim 25, wherein said sensor electronics includes a plurality of probes and each one of said plurality of sensors including a plurality of leads for contacting said plurality of probes, the apparatus further comprising a fourth system that moves at least one of said plurality of probes and one of said plurality of probes so that said plurality of probes and said plurality of leads contact one another.

27. **(Previously Presented)** An apparatus according to claim 13, wherein each of said plurality of sensors is operatively configured to sense TCA.

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